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MATH 684

Professor Sangiovanni

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**Learning Task #1: UDL**

For Learning Task #1 I chose to research Universal Design for Learning. Here is the link to the Prezi I created:<http://prezi.com/cumofqgl_v_f/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy>

This Prezi will answer the Summary and Reflection Questions listed under “Task” in the Learning Task #1 Directions.

The additional reflection questions are below.

**What are your thoughts about technology in the classroom?**

I am a big supporter of the utilization of technology in the classroom. This can mean something as simple as allowing students to use a word processor to complete a written assignment, or the use of iPhone and iPad apps to help students manage time, set reminders, study, or many other tasks with which students generally need support. Students are generally familiar with how to use these anyway; why not capitalize on what they know? However, whenever a teacher integrates technology into his or her classroom, he/she must keep in mind that technology can often be a barrier. Students who do not have access to technology at home may not be familiar with how to use these tools. In their case, the integration of technology can itself be a barrier. Teachers must be ready to help students overcome these.

**What are your strengths and/or challenges with technology in life/in the classroom?**

I am very comfortable using technology in life and in the classroom. One of my strengths is using programs such as Excel for personal and professional tasks such as budgeting or tracking progress on my SLO. I am also fairly good at incorporating simple technology into my classroom for student use. For example, my students completed a photo scavenger hunt on a recent field trip using the camera and audio recorders on their phones. They then created photo collages and presentations using Google Apps for Education. What I consider to be a challenge for myself is staying current on news apps and programs that students can use within the classroom. Although I tend to embrace it immediately, I do often feel a little behind in discovering certain technology.

**What are your goals for this course?**

My goals for this course are to learn about new and different ways to engage my students in the math and Social Studies classrooms. I would also like to be able to provide to my students various ways to practice the content on their own time, especially using methods that are not always common in the classroom. This may help me reach more unconventional or hesitant learners.